Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2024 10:19:08 PM First name: ethan Last name: atkins Organization: Title: Comments: To Whom it Concerns,

Im reaching out to make my voice heard that Im against the recent policies about wilderness bolting. Climbing has become a pillar in bringing the cultures of the world together. In the United States our public lands that include climbing have been one of the many driving factors in creating an ecocentric population within the youth. It offers a sense of exploration, adventure, personal growth, and community to millions of people. When I hear that the "idea of wilderness" is willing to constrict and jeopardize the very foundation of American outdoor culture I see a step backwards. We want to move forward towards achieving a harmonious state between humans and the natural world simply because it makes people care about our home. In an amazing way, having bolts in a wilderness area does not take away from its beauty, it creates a bridge for many to see the world differently. Of course rules and regulations, currents ones I may add, are doing a solid job at making it acceptable and not out of control. I have done many of climbing routes all over the united state and in some ways dictates my entire way I spent my time off as well as given me employment. To take away such protection such as bolts, these policies will make my passion more dangerous and more intimidating for those wanting to form a connection to nature. In conclusion, Im against the bolt prohibition.